

# DDRT Employees Recognized for Support to Blackhawk

Several Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas (DDRT) employees were honored for their support to the Blackhawk Program Managers Office, part of the Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM). They were presented awards by LTC Don Reese, USA, for DDRT's ongoing support to the fielding of the Blackhawk Helicopter System.



Shown (l to r) Front Row: **Kirk Zachry, Ken Trickey, Joe Stevens, Annie Finley, Paula Dewberry, Pat Sherman, Portia Amason, Sue Gibson, Susan Crawford.** Back row (l to r) **William Henderson, Mike Stewart, Bill Brittenham, LTC Reese, Leon Hite, Jackie Clark, DDRT Commander LTC Charles S. Young, Vicki Orr, Charles Austin.** Awardees not shown include **Angie Pippen, Barbara Noel, and Barbara Waller.**

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## DDCT Implements Safety Center

Defense Distribution Depot Corpus Christi, Texas (DDCT) had some important questions to answer: What can we do to help reduce the anxiety of trying to find proper emergency equipment, information and protective gear when an emergency does occur? How can we make it easier for the employees to get to whatever they need quickly, without having to go to several different areas in the work center to find it?

There were a number of suggestions and ideas, but one idea stood out. What if there was one area in every work center designed specifically for employees to get emergency equipment and information quickly and easily? Thus, the concept of the "Safety Center" was born.

"The DDCT staff are very safety conscious," said LTC Teodoro Velazquez, USA, Commander DDCT. "Implementing a Safety Center is an excellent idea from an excellent team. Everyone at DDCT is trying to work safer and smarter every day."

The original idea discussed and sketched was to create a large board, paint it a florescent green and hang small wire baskets for various equipment and emergency information; such as gloves, goggles, safety glasses, emergency manuals, phone numbers, first aid kit, etc. The board then would be centrally or strategically placed so that everyone would be able to see it and know immediately where to go to get what they needed.

In emergencies, every second counts. Whatever the situation, being able to get the right equipment quickly to handle emergencies makes a great difference in how fast the emergency can be mitigated. Having safety glasses or goggles and proper gloves handy in case of a chemical spill

could make the difference in how big the spill gets or how quickly it can be cleaned up, or it may reduce the risks of injury for the employees exposed.

The Safety Center makes it easier for the workforce to get to emergency supplies and information when an accident occurs or when an unexpected crisis develops.

The value of that networking paid off at DDCT when the Safety Center concept was shared with management and a decision to implement it at the depot was made. During the initial development of the center, before it was fully completed, an accident occurred in the DDCT open storage lot, someone cut their hand. Immediately, the supervisor went to the prototype safety center for the emergency first aid kit. When talking to the supervisor after the incident, he agreed that the Safety Center was the first thought he had when he needed help and he knew immediately where he could get it.

**DDCT Safety Center.**

